

Miscellaneous.

A Settler.

"My wild oats now I've fully sown,
I'm going to settle down;
To-morrow month I'll have it known,
I marry sweet M. S. Brown."

"That's good, accept my best regards,
May joy overflow your cup;
But are your wife's out more cards,
Suppose you settle up?"

A NORTH CAROLINA REMINISCENCE.

How Col. Pulaski Cowper Lost His Bet on Uncle Tom's Shooting.

Some years ago Col. Pulaski Cowper, than whom there is not a more clever, white-souled and popular gentleman in the more widely known, or one who enjoys a good joke better, even if at his own expense, in the North State, was reading law in the town of Jackson, the county seat of Northampton county.

In the vicinity of Jackson lived Uncle Tom Wheeler, who was as well known in Northampton as Col. Cowper is in the State. It is said that Uncle Tom was possessed of considerable means, though somewhat miserly; at any rate, very few people saw him spending money.

One characteristic of Uncle Tom was, when away from home he was never seen without his gun. "Old Betsy," as he called it, as well as his dogs, always accompanied him.

It made but little difference in what direction Uncle Tom started from home to take a "little hunt," it was always nearer to go back via Jackson; and some of his neighbors insinuated that the "wet groceries" had some attraction for him, as it was almost a daily occurrence for him to be seen in town; and while he was ever ready if drinks were proposed, he was never known to "set 'em up."

This reminiscence occurred during a court week in Jackson, and, on account of an important case to be tried, there were a large number of people in attendance, estimated by some at 500. Near the court-house was the store of Mr. Phil Randolph, a distant relative of John Randolph, of Roanoke.

In the South the store houses in the towns and villages are not considered complete without a piazza in front. Randolph's store had a very large one, on which were seated some fifteen or twenty men, including Uncle Tom. He had set "old Betsy" in the corner of the piazza near a window.

Col. Cowper had become somewhat weary at the wrangling of the lawyers over the admission of some evidence, so he took up his hat and walked out of the court-house over to Randolph's store, where he found the crowd teasing Uncle Tom about always carrying his gun and never having any game, and some intimated that they did not believe he could kill anything. Col. Cowper seeing Uncle Tom's gun sitting near the window, went into the store, took the gun in at the window, drew out the shot, leaving the powder in, and returned it to its place on the piazza. He then walked out, joined in with the others in teasing Uncle Tom, and being confident he had a "sure thing" on the old man, Col. Cowper proposed to bet treats for the crowd that Uncle Tom could not hit his hat if placed on a large oak stump about twenty steps off.

(Col. Cowper had on a fine silk hat, for which he paid \$5 the day before Uncle Tom said, "Well, 'Betsy," that's what he always calls the dog, and he always insists upon it, that you drinks for the crowd, and I'll take a rest, if you will let me take a rest, I'll see what old Betsy can do.")

The Colonel said, "All right, he might 'take a rest,' and sit down too if he liked."

The Colonel sent five or six boys around town to tell everybody they were to come to Randolph's store there was going to be a "free treat." He and Uncle Tom then went to the oak stump to put the hat in position. While this was going on Mr. Randolph, quietly and unperceived, slipped the gun in the store and filled it it about half full of buckshot and set it back.

Everything in readiness Uncle Tom took up his gun, remarking, "Old Betsy, you never have failed me, now do your best." Seating himself in a chair he rested the gun on the railing, took aim, pulled the trigger, and—Uncle Tom was picked up at the other end of the piazza. The gun went cavorting through the air and landed on the other side of the street. The hat—not a piece as large as a silver dollar could be found. "Snaked by jingo," exclaimed Col. Cowper, "a conspiracy, some one has played fool on me, but I'll 'set 'em up,' and all were invited to a saloon near by, where he arranged with the proprietor for drinks for the crowd. The Colonel then went to the hotel to get his dinner, and about 2 o'clock P. M. the line was formed and the drinking commenced. They went in at the front door, got a drink and passed out at the rear.

About sunset the Colonel went over to settle the bill, when, to his astonishment, the drinking was still going on, the line had resolved into a ring and was repeating; and ever and anon there would go up a yell, "Rah for Cowper!" He called a halt on the bartender, who, knowing the Colonel's ability to pay, was keeping the glasses filled. He asked for the amount of the bill. The proprietor told him "it would take some little time to count it up, as he had chalked it down on the side of the house." The Colonel asked how many barrels they had drank and was told about two. He said he would pay for it at wholesale prices, and it was compromised for \$117.50.

Col. Cowper became so disgusted with the whole affair that he resolved to give up the study of law and immediately packed his trunk and hired a man to take him to the railroad. Just outside the town, on ascending a hill, an obstruction was noticed in the road. The driver got out to see what it was and reported that a cart was bottom upwards. They took hold to remove it, when a voice underneath stammered out, "Hie; come in, boys; free treat—'rah for Cowper!'" Reaching the station the Colonel took the first train for Raleigh, where he opened an insurance office, and he is today considered one of the best and most reliable insurance men in or out of the State.—R. W. B. in Washington Paper.

Our Daughters Should be Taught Housework.

It is the idea certain people have that in teaching their daughters certain so-called "accomplishments," they do all that can reasonably be expected of them, and that the girls, untrained in domestic duties, will, by some marvellous hidden process, develop into good wives and mothers.

This is a serious popular fallacy. Doubtless many learn in the school of experience; but why should they be subjected to a hard and perfectly avoidable lesson? Work, real honest work, never degrades the worker; and, in the vast majority of cases, girls are happier, healthier, and more lovable for having real occupation to fill their thoughts and employ their time. Let the work be only cooking the dinner—what harm will it do a healthy girl? Or, if it be attending to the housekeeping, keeping accounts, etc., is it not better to have such an occupation than to spend hours—precious hours—which can never be recalled, over novels (very good in their way and at proper times), or the last new fancy work, also very good in its proper time and place?

If our girls were taught to be domestic and home-loving, though not necessarily "home-keeping" always, there would be fewer unhappy marriages, fewer houses made miserable by dissension between the heads, fewer complaints of servants, fewer causes of complaint.

Things Worth Remembering.

That a bag of hot sand relieves neuralgia.

That warm borax water will remove dandruff.

That salt should be eaten with nuts to aid digestion.

That milk which stands too long makes bitter butter.

That a hot, strong lemon taken at bedtime will break up a bad cold.

That it rests you in sewing to change your position frequently.

That rusty flatirons should be rubbed over with beeswax and lard.

That a little soda water will relieve sick headache caused by indigestion.

That a cup of strong coffee will remove the odor of onions from the breath.

That tough meat is made tender by lying a few minutes in vinegar water.

That well-ventilated bedrooms will prevent morning headaches and lassitude.

That a cup of water drunk before meals will relieve nausea and dyspepsia.

That a fever patient can be made cool and comfortable by frequently sponging off with soda water.

That consumptive night-sweats may be arrested by sponging the body nightly in salt water.

That one in a faint should be laid flat on his back, then loosen his clothes and let him alone.

That cold tea should be saved for your vinegar barrel. It sours easily and gives color and flavor.

That to beat the whites of eggs rapidly add a pinch of salt. Salt cools and cold eggs froth rapidly.

That the hair may be kept from falling out after illness by a frequent application to the scalp, of sage tea.

That you can take out spots from wash goods by rubbing them with the yolk of egg before washing.

That white spots upon varnished furniture will disappear if you hold a hot plate from the stove over them.

Very Neatly Done.

The devices of thieves are frequently brought to naught by the counter-devices of detectives.

A story is told of a lady and gentleman, apparently so, traveling together in an English compartment car, illustrating the detective's method:

"Madam, I will trouble you to look out of the window a few minutes; I am going to make a change in my wearing apparel."

"Certainly, sir," she replied, with great politeness, rising and turning her back upon him.

In a very short time he again addressed her:

"Now, madam, my change is complete, and you may resume your seat."

When the lady turned, she beheld her male companion transformed into a dashing lady with a veil over her face.

"Now, sir, or madam, whichever you like, I must trouble you to look out of the window, I also have some changes to make in my apparel," said the lady.

"Certainly, madam," and the gentleman, in ladies attire, immediately complied.

"Now, sir, you may resume your seat."

To his great surprise on resuming his seat, the gentleman in female attire found his lady companion transformed into a man. He laughed loudly and said:

"It appears that we are both anxious to avoid recognition. What have you done? I have robbed a bank."

"And I," said the whilom lady, as he dexterously fettered his companion's wrists with a pair of handcuffs, "I am Detective J., of Scotland Yard, and in female apparel have shadowed you for two days. Now, keep still," drawing a revolver.

THE RAPID CONSUMPTION OF TIMBER.—In Michigan, the greatest lumber-producing State in the Union, the first saw-mill was erected about fifty years ago. At that time it was estimated that there were 150,000,000,000 feet of white pine standing in the forests of the State. The estimate for 1885 is 35,000,000,000 feet, which shows that it has disappeared at the rate of 2,300,000 feet annually for fifty years. The estimated amount cut into lumber in Michigan in 1884 was 5,100,000,000 feet, board measure, which is about one-sixth of the whole amount cut in the United States for that year.—Pacific Rural Press.

Science and Industry.

As many as 200 needle-pointed lightningrod tips have been fixed upon the rods at the top of the Washington Monument to catch any thunderbolts that may come flashing down.

The petrified skeleton of a whale, over thirty feet long, has been discovered by an officer of the Coast Survey on a range of mountains in Monterey County, Cal., over 3,300 feet above the sea-level.

Krupp & Co. are manufacturing for Italy four guns. Each will weigh 120 tons, while a charge of 600 pounds of powder will be required for the firing of the projectile of one ton. The guaranteed range is five miles.

Fall River has fifty-four mills with 1,713,816 spindles, 40,586 looms, run by thirty-seven corporations, with a capital of \$17,478,000 and an investment of \$35,000,000. These have on their payrolls 10,000 employees. The last State census gives it a population of 56,863 and valuation of \$45,000,000.

One gets a striking idea of the magnitude of this country from the statement of Rev. Dr. Barrows, that if the entire population of the globe, estimated at 1,400,000,000, were divided into families of five, the State of Texas alone could give each family half an acre of land to live upon.

In the reign of Louis XIV., ladies' hair was drawn over a wire frame-work more than half a yard high, divided into several stories and surmounted or covered with bands of muslin, ribbons, chenilles, pearls or flowers. Each separate part of this monument was designated by a name. If the wearer moved about much the whole structure trembled and menaced ruin.

There are engaged in the fishing industry of Europe and America upwards of 150,000 vessels and 600,000 men. The annual product of fish is not much short of 1,500,000 tons, but few people will stop to realize the importance of these figures. As a ton of fish is equal in weight to about twenty-eight sheep, a year's supply of fish-food for Europe and America might be represented by 42,000,000 sheep.

A writer in the Eastern medical Journal says that the medical idea of a teaspoonful is one fluid dram. This is, in fact, about the measurement of that article as used by our grandmothers. But this and the desert spoon are now made so much larger than formerly that they hold nearly two drams, and people who measure medicine by them overdose themselves. The tablespoon remains as in the old days.

Science destroys some the most cherished popular delusions. Catgut is derived from sheep; German silver was not invented in Germany, and it contains no silver; Cleopatra's needle was not erected by her, nor in her honor; Pompey's pillar had no historical connection with that personage; sealingwax does not contain a particle of wax; the tuberose is not a rose, but a polyanth; the strawberry is not a berry; Turkish baths did not originate in Turkey and are not baths at all; whalebone is not bone, and contains none of its properties.

There is a curious clock in the Cathedral at Lubeck, Germany. On the end of the hour hand there is a little clock which keeps exact time with the large clock. This little timepiece of course goes round and round the larger dial, and reminds one of a "wheel within a wheel." In a Swiss museum there is a watch that is only three-sixteenths of an inch in diameter. It is inserted in the top of an old-fashioned pencil case, such as our grandmothers used to possess. Its little dial not only indicates hours, minutes and seconds, but also days of the month.

With Cotton at Eight and a Half Cents, Poor Crops and Bad Prices.

WHAT SHALL BE DONE?

RALEIGH, N. C., Feb. 1, 1885.

The situation of our Farmers, and more especially of those in the Eastern Counties, is a serious one. With cotton at 84 cents and everything else in the same proportion, it is doubtful whether our people can make cotton at all with the old method. Thousands of thoughtful men all through the South are considering earnestly this question: WHAT SHALL BE DONE? With prices of their products way down and the prices of all they buy not reduced in the same proportion, what shall be done to feed the family, buy clothes and send the children to school during this New Year? All this time sensible men are cutting down every expense and resolving that they will make more at home. Milk, meat, vegetables must be made in larger quantities and groceries saved; corn, oats and grass must be provided for the horses, cows and hogs. High-priced fertilizers and every extra thing are entirely out of the question. The wise man will buy the cheapest and best ingredients only and make fertilizers at home this year.

At this time, THE NORTH CAROLINA PHOSPHATE COMPANY, an exclusively North Carolina Company, working nothing but North Carolina material, wants to inform the prudent men just described how they can help themselves and help a home enterprise by buying LIME PHOSPHATE, the cheapest Phosphate ever sold in North Carolina. It is to the interest of every farmer in North Carolina to write to the NORTH CAROLINA PHOSPHATE COMPANY at Raleigh, N. C., and learn how to save money and make a good fertilizer that will make a good crop at a very low price.

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